

squatters openly and vociferously encouraged by President Mugabe, and the murder of some of those farmers, through the prism of the former era of colonial and white-minority rule. That would be a tragic mistake. The deteriorating situation in Zimbabwe is directly tied to President Mugabe's autocratic rule and desperate attempt to hold back the tides of history, which appear to favor democracy. Mugabe's rejection of South African President Thabo Mbeki's efforts at brokering a quasi-reasonable resolution of the land-reform issue was further evidence of his growing penchant for petty tyranny as a substitute for enlightened government.

It is imperative that the United States, the European Community and, most importantly, the Organization of African Unity act forcefully in pressuring Mugabe to reverse his current dictatorial policies and allow for the conduct of free and fair elections. His failure to do so should be widely condemned. What ails Zimbabwe is not racial tension, but the age-old problem of a dictator who fails to read the writing on the walls. As with others before him, he will find, I suspect, that his world will become more and more confined, more and more restrictive and his actions more and more desperate. At a time when Sub-Saharan Africa has become synonymous with civil strife and the international community debates the ongoing wars in Sierra Leone and Congo, while conflict continues in Angola and ethnic violence continues in and around Rwanda and Burundi, Zimbabwe should have been a beacon of political stability and economic development. Instead, it descends into the darkness of tyranny. It is hopefully not too late to reverse the situation there, but the signs are not encouraging.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4578. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 1:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4387. An act to provide that the School Governance Charter Amendment Act of 2000 shall take effect upon the date such Act is ratified by the voters of the District of Columbia.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. REID:

S. 2749. A bill to establish the California Trail Interpretive Center in Elko, Nevada, to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in the settling of the western portion of the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. REID:

S. 2750. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Secretary of the Interior to participate constructively in the implementation of the Las Vegas Wash Wetland Restoration and Lake Mead Water Quality Improvement Project, Nevada; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. REID:

S. 2751. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land in the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Nevada, to the Secretary of the Interior, in trust for the Washoe Indian Tribe of Nevada and California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THOMPSON:

S. 2752. To amend the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999 to enhance congressional oversight to nuclear transfers to North Korea and to prohibit the assumption by the United States Government of liability for nuclear accidents that may occur at nuclear reactors provided to North Korea; read the first time.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBB, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. 2753. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a prescription drug benefit for the aged and disabled under the medicare program, to enhance the preventative benefits covered under such program, and for other purposes; placed on the calendar.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. Con. Res. 124. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to Iraq's failure to release prisoners of war from Kuwait and nine other nations in violation of international agreements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REID:

S. 2749. A bill to establish the California Trail Interpretive Center in Elko, Nevada, to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in the setting of the western portion of the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### CALIFORNIA TRAIL INTERPRETIVE ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the California Trail Interpretive Act.

The nineteenth century westward emigration on the California National Historic Trail, which occurred from 1840 until the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869, was an important cultural and historical era in the settlement of the West. This influx of settlers contributed to the development of lands in the western United States by Americans and immigrants and to the prevention of colonization of the west coast by Russia and the British Empire. More than 300,000 settlers traveled the California Trail and many documented their amazing experiences in detailed journals. Under the National Trails System Act, the Secretary of Interior may establish interpretation centers to document and celebrate pioneer trails such as the California National Historic Trail. In Nevada, Elko County alone contains over 435 miles of National Historic Trails.

Mr. President, recognition and interpretation of the pioneer experience on the Trail is appropriate in light of Americans' strong interest in understanding our history and heritage. Those who pursue Western Americana, and thousands do, will find physical evidence of the documented hardships facing the original pioneers. One pioneer journal bemoaned the death of an elderly lady traveling west with her family. Her grave and its marker are in evidence in the Beowawe Cemetery near the trail river crossing known as Gravely Ford for those searching for historical confirmation. And, if the present-day explorers choose to walk part of the California Trail, they may do so at this place. To the east of this river crossing is around five miles of undisturbed trail that leads down from what is known as "Emigrant Pass".

This Act authorizes the planning, construction and operation of a visitor center. The cooperative parties include the State of Nevada, the Advisory Board for the National Historic California Emigrant Trails Interpretive Center, Elko County, the City of Elko, and Bureau of Land Management.

This interpretive center will be located near the city of Elko, in northeastern Nevada. The location is the junction of the California Trail and the Hastings Cutoff. The ill-fated Reed-Donner party spent an additional 31 days meandering over the so-called Hastings Cutoff route; precious time wasted that kept them from crossing the deadly Sierra Nevada before winter struck in 1846.